

- (h) Please let me know if any other gentleman has killed or seen a wild boar of this type. Major Maxwell of Mewar Bhil Corps was hunting with us; he has stuck pig all over India. He said that it was the first time he had seen a pig of this type.

BATHERA HOUSE,
UDAIPUR — RAJPUTANA.
30th May, 1946.

R. D. SINHA,
Major.

[Albinism is not uncommon among certain groups of mammals and birds but is apparently rare in others. Among the rodents, especially rats albinism is quite frequent; among deer and antelopes it is not uncommon; but, among the larger animals it is less frequent. Albino tigers, bison and elephants have been recorded occasionally, but as far as we are aware an albino wild pig is a rarity and has not been recorded. Albinism is a result of a colour deficiency in the pigment layers of the skin—its reverse, melanism, is an over pigmentation of the dermal layers.—Eds.]

6.—BIRD NOTES OF THE ARABIAN AND RED SEAS.

(An Analysis of Five Voyages.)

- (I) Bombay—Suez 16-6-42—27-6-42
(II) Suez—Bombay 28-6-44—10-7-44.
(III) Bombay—Suez 7-2-45—19-2-45.
(IV) Suez—Bombay 30-4-45—9-5-45.
(V) Bombay—Suez 14-6-46—27-6-46.

Shear-water sp. *Puffinus pacificus* or *Pterodroma aterrima*.

Frequent in the Arabian Sea from Aden to 900 m. east of Aden in May '45 and June '44 and '46.

The former species is more likely to occur in this area.

Description:—Size of Manx Shearwater. Wholly brown, wings rather long, with paler bar on coverts of some. Primaries and tail nearly black. Tail long and slightly wedge-shaped, but in others shorter (possibly a different species). Bill dark.

Persian Shearwater. *Puffinus persicus*.

Sparse near and east of Aden in February and May '45, and doubtfully present in the northern part of the Red Sea in June '42.

Wilson's Petrel. *Oceanites oceanicus*.

In February '45 sparse from Aden to 600 m. east of there. Also there in June and July, as well as in the Red Sea. In June '44 a few were seen within 500 m. of Suez. In June '46 huge numbers were passed for three hours about 240—270 m. east of Aden, and for one hour near the straits of Bab-el-Mandeb.

White-eyed Gull. *Larus leucoptthalmus.*

Sparse in Suez in February '45, 90% being immatures. In April, May and June they were frequent at Suez and near the Straits of Jubal. A single bird at the mouth of the Red Sea in July '44.

Aden Gull. *Larus hemprichii.*

Abundant in and near Aden and the mouth of the Red Sea at all times.

Yellow-legged Herring Gull. *Larus cachimans.*

At Suez in February '45, but not in April, May and June.

Lesser Black-backed Gull. *Larus fuscus.*

In February frequent at Bombay, near Aden, in the Red Sea and at Suez. In April and May at Suez and Aden, and in July common at Aden, 90% being immature birds.

Brown-headed Gull. *Larus brunnicephalus.*

Frequent in February and May in Bombay but not seen in June '46.

Black-headed Gull. *Larus ridibundus.*

In February very abundant at Suez; none in April, May and June.

Gull-billed Tern. *Gelochelidon nilotica.*

Sparse in Bombay Harbour in May '45.

White-cheeked Tern. *Sterna repressa.*

Frequent in Aden in June '42, and what was probably this species of tern in large flocks from Aden to 600 m. east of there, in May '45. Also sparse in the lower Red Sea in June '46.

Description:—A smallish tern with a dark mantle and red bill.

Crested Tern. *Sterna bergii.*

In Aden, up to 400 m. east of there, and in the lower Red Sea during April, May and June. Not seen in February. Never common except in Aden Harbour.

Brown-winged Tern. *Sterna anaetheta.*

In June '42 sparse east and west of Aden.

It was probably this tern that was present in large flocks 150 m. north and south of the Twelve Apostles in the Red Sea in May '45.

Description:—Small. Head white with crown darker. Upper-parts brown, under-parts pale, with darker leading edges to wings.

Little Tern. *Sterna albifrons.*

Common at Suez in April, May and June, but not seen in February.

Common Noddy. *Anous stolidus*.

More than twenty around the stationary ship at the mouth of the Red Sea in July '44, and sparse near the Twelve Apostles in May '45.

Pomarine Skua. *Coprotheres pomarinus*.

In May '45 good views were obtained of one near Suez and one in the middle of the Red Sea, mobbing first *Larus fuscus*, and on the second occasion *Larus hemprichii*.

Description:—Upper-parts brown, paler bar on the primaries. Under-wings and collar brownish, rest of under-parts pale or white. Neck white. Two protruding tail-feathers very noticeable.

Brown Booby. *Sula leucogastra*.

One at Aden in June '46, but otherwise only in the Red Sea, especially near the Twelve Apostles.

Red-footed Booby. *Sula piscatrix*.

Odd birds seen near Aden and in the Red Sea (including one near Suez in June '42) and occasionally from Aden to 900 m. east of there.

Red-billed Tropic-bird. *Phaëton aethereus*.

Odd birds at sea from 400 to 900 m. east of Aden in February and May, two in the Red Sea near the Twelve Apostles and two near Suez, in May.

Red-necked Phalarope. *Lobipes lobatus*.

Ten phalaropes 450 m. east of Aden in February '45, twelve there again in May, and sparse flocks of ten or less in the Red Sea near the Twelve Apostles in February '45.

They were almost certainly this species and not *Phalaropus fulicarius*.

LOENOWERLE,
FEOCK, TRURO,
CORNWALL, ENGLAND,
3rd July, 1946.

P. I. R. MACLAREN.

7.—BABAR THE GREAT ON FLAMINGOES.

Some time ago, there was an appeal¹ in the *Journal* inquiring information about seasonal movements or any other general information about flamingoes. The other day, when reading the Autobiography of Babar the Great, Emperor of India, I came across some of his observations on birds² and as they throw some light

¹ Ali., Sálím 1944. The Common Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*): An appeal. *J.B.N.H.S.*, Vol. 44, pp. 476-477.

² Leyden, J. and W. Erskin, 1826. *Memoirs of Zehirudin Mohammad Báber*, London. pp. 165-166.